

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUNICH 00491 270014Z
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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BENC, BTIO, EAIR, GW
SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: SITREP ON NEW MUNICH AIRPORT

REF: 77 MUNICH 0932

1. SITE PLANS FOR NEW AIRPORT WERE FORMALLY APPROVED BY ALL GERMAN GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES IN NOVEMBER 1977. COPIES OF SITE PLAN CAN BE SUPPLIED TO INTERESTED USG END USERS.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS ON AIRPORT AND ITS IMPACT ON LIFE IN SURROUNDING AREA ARE RAPIDLY DRAWING TO CLOSE. ALL ARGUMENTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN HEARD BY JUNE 1978. ASSUMING NO MAJOR POLICY CHANGES RESULT FROM HEARINGS, AIRPORT PLANNING AUTHORITY EXPECTS TO BE TARGET OF CLOSE TO 100 LAW SUITS WHICH WILL SEEK TO PREVENT CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITY. AUTHORITY CONFIDENT IT CAN OVERCOME SUITS BY MIDDLE 1979, WITH CONSTRUCTION TO GET UNDERWAY BY EARLY FALL 1979. COMPLETION WOULD THEN BE FIVE TO FIVE AND A HALF YEARS AWAY.

3. PLANS FOR INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS AND SUPPORT INSTALLA-
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TIONS ARE NOW IN DRAFTING STAGE. FINAL DECISIONS ON PASSENGER TERMINAL, AIRCRAFT SERVICE AREA, AND GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS ARE STILL 12 MONTHS AWAY. CURRENT PROBLEM NUMBER ONE IS SECURITY FOR PASSENGERS, AIRCRAFT, AND AIRPORT EMPLOYEES. WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON THIS ISSUE AS MUNICH IS MAJOR TRAFFIC POINT FOR VISITING USG EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS.

4. FOR VOA: AIRPORT PLANNING AUTHORITY DIRECTOR MANFRED STEFFEN RAISED QUESTION OF VOA'S 260 METER TALL ANTENNA AT ERCHING. THIS IS ANTENNA FOR DORMANT 209KHZ. TRANSMITTER. STEFFEN STATED THAT GERMAN FLIGHT SAFETY AUTHORITIES HAD TOLD HIM THAT, ALTHOUGH ANTENNA IS OUTSIDE SIX KILOMETER HEIGHT RESTRICTION ZONE, THEY PLAN TO PRESS STRONGLY FOR ITS REMOVAL. FLIGHT SAFETY PEOPLE CONTEND THAT ON SHORT TAKE-OFF PATTERN CURRENTLY ENVISAGED AS NOISE ABATEMENT PROCEDURE, ANTENNA WILL POSE DEFINITE HAZARD. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, STEFFEN STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT AIRPORT COMPANY IS WILLING TO PAY RELOCATION COSTS FOR ERCHING FACILITY IF SUITABLE SITE IN BAVARIA CAN BE FOUND.

5. WE WILL CONTINUE TO OBSERVE THE NEW AIRPORT'S PROGRESS THROUGH THE LEGAL MAZE. SHOULD ANY WASHINGTON ENDUSER HAVE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, WE WILL BE HAPPY TO SEEK AN ANSWER. BETTS

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